

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus

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Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell Captain David A. Ricciarelli

Commissioner, Department of Public Safety Interim Director

Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2012

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Colonel Stephen M. McCartney called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 8:14 a.m. on November 20, 2012 at RISP Headquarters-North Scituate.

Colonel McCartney asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Colonel Stephen M. McCartney, Chief Anthony Pesare,, Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell and Mr. Shawn Brown. It shall be noted that Chief Edward Mello is in

transit. Also present were Captain David Ricciarelli, Mr. Richard B. Woolley, Esq., Captain David DelBonis, Donna Lavalley, Sergeant Scott Raynes, Trooper Thomas Chabot and Ms. Lisa Holley. Also present in the room were Captain Daniel Barzykowski-Central Falls P.D., Mr. Paul Dutra and Mr. Paul Brouillette of the RI Interlocal Trust.

2. Approval of the minutes

Colonel McCartney asked for approval of the minutes from the last meeting dated August 30, 2012. Chief Pesare made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. After no further discussion and all in favor (4-0), the motion carries and minutes were accepted.

3. Rhode Island Interlocal Trust-Model Use of Force Policy

Colonel McCartney welcomed and introduced Mr. Paul Dutra, Mr. Paul Brouillette and Captain Barzykowski. Mr. Dutra began by explaining that the Trust embarked on an effort to update the Use of Force policy which was developed in 2006. All 38 Police Departments have adopted the model policy. A request was made to all agencies asking for volunteers to review the policy—invites went to local police, both trust and non-trust members. Twenty-two police departments had involvement along with Captain Barzykowski being the lead instructor at RIMPA and his instructional staff, Major Hill, (ret) Captain Christine Crocker, Jerry Coyne, Mark DeSisto and Trust representatives. The final draft of the project is being submitted today. A meeting was held last month with Police Chiefs and no other revisions were made to the policy from the Police Chiefs. Bringing this to the POST is the

final process and he is asking for the POST support and acknowledgement. He is also asking the POST to consider a standardized in-service training program around this program. Colonel McCartney asked if it would be a train-the-trainer and Mr. Dutra responded that the “hows” of the training would be left up to Captain Barzykowski. Chief Pesare questioned page 4 and Paragraph g, “Recent graduates of RIMPA and any in-state lateral”..should there be mention of Providence of RISP transfers.

***Note: Chief Mello is now present at the meeting at 8:25 am**

Mr. Dutra explained that they contemplated that but it was determined that page 5, subsection E “training and Qualifications” encompasses those groups. Colonel O'Donnell suggested not to leave it to inference but to put it in. Chief Pesare also had a question on page 7, Section F “Reporting Uses of Force”, Number 2 &3, where a lot of police departments are carrying tasers; therefore, should “taser” be added? Mr. Dutra responded that he believed that was done because a taser is a use of force tool and the form must be filled out. CALEA said it does not require a use of force form to be filled out and they must go by what CALEA requires-he proposes taser not be put in. He then asked Captain Barzykowski to explain the changes. Captain Barzykowski explained the policy gets away from actual force continuum and advances some of the training. In essence we are getting away from the force continuum and the steps, they are now listed as force options. It is changing the philosophy to get away from steps, the options are better. Also, techniques are a little different in being geared more to saving a life. Colonel O'Donnell

asked if it should be added that “any” option can be deployed immediately depending upon the threat. Mr. Dutra replied that that issue is addressed on page 3 in the parameters. Colonel O’Donnell agreed that covers it. Chief Pesare asked if this now becomes a state-specific “Use of Force” policy or a standard and Mr. Dutra replied that the Standards Commission recognizes there were certain CALEA standards and state-standards. This policy will be an old CALEA standard and my become a state standard. Christine Crocker provided a letter of to the POST in support of the policy.

Colonel McCartney asked for a motion to support the policy. Chief Pesare made a motion to support the policy; Colonel O’Donnell seconded the motion. All in favor, 5-0, motion carries. Colonel McCartney asked for a motion to support an in-service training project conducted by the Police Academy. Mr. Brown made a motion in favor of this in-service training and it was seconded by Chief Pesare. All in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Colonel McCartney then commended Mr. Dutra and Captain Barzykowski for the work they did on this project. The involvement was great and it got everyone in the state involved in the project and they need to be commended.

4. Academy staffing:

- **Colonel Steven G. O’Donnell**

Colonel Sullivan introduced Trooper Tom Chabot who has been newly assigned to the Police Academy as the Basic Training Officer. Colonel O’Donnell praised Captain David DelBonis or his remarkable work over the past years as the Training Officer. He has done

remarkable work and the recruits have a different way about them. He also thanked him for mentoring the Troopers who have been assigned here. As for the consolidated Academy, he is waiting to hear on the Google monies from North Providence and East Providence. They are looking at land in the back of State Police Headquarters because they are not grandfathered anywhere but there.

Colonel McCartney stated he and the municipalities are in full support of the State Police assisting with personnel at the Academy. He said it is becoming problematic for the cities and towns to provide CTO's. Colonel O'Donnell appreciated the support of the municipalities and added that 30 troopers are assigned out of the State Police to other agencies and he feels that is part of their mission.

5. Approval of East Providence, Cranston and Newport Police Department:

- **SWAT team certification/Sgt. Raynes**

Sgt. Raynes stated that all three departments received unanimous agreements two re-certify their SWAT teams. A motion was made by Mr. Brown to re-certify the SWAT teams of Cranston, East Providence and Newport and it was seconded by Chief Mello. All in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

6. Provisional Certification for RISP and Providence Police Academy graduates in good standing

- **Captain Ricciarelli**

Captain Ricciarelli is requesting that the POST look at the provisional

certification for Providence and the Rhode Island State Police. These need to be reviewed and discussed and presented to the POST. Chief Pesare made a motion to empower Captain Ricciarelli to conduct a review on provisional certifications and it was seconded by Mr. Brown. With all in favor, 5-0, motion passes.

7. Assessment Center Update

- **Sgt. Raynes/Major Hill**

Sgt. Raynes stated that he, Major Hill and Chief Pesare have met regarding state-wide testing on May 30, 2012 to begin the process. This testing will alleviate municipalities to give individual assessments. There will be certain days throughout the year for state-wide testing. A fee would be assessed and the successful candidate would be given a card good for one year. Sgt. Raynes asked our PT Lead Instructor, Officer Travis Maiato, for his input and he said to test about 100 people, it would take from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and that would include a swim test. Sgt. Raynes also through out the possibility of raising the Cooper standards to 50%, which would relieve the burden from the police departments. Colonel McCartney asked if they would then need another assessment for RIMPA and Captain Ricciarelli stated yes prompting chief Mello to ask why would they need to go through another Fitness test and Captain Ricciarelli answered that it is etched in stone by Cooper that the candidate must be tested no earlier than 6-8 weeks prior to the start of class. Chief Mello added that he would like to see some sort of waiver policy in place in the cases where the candidate could not afford the fee.

8. Discuss Class 2013-I

- **Captain David DelBonis/Trooper Thomas Chabot**

Captain DelBonis stated that the draft schedule has been completed and sent out to the instructional staff. Everything is ready to go, with the class to begin on January 7th. Trooper Chabot has been by his side for the past several weeks learning the ropes.

Sgt. Raynes added that First Responder instruction for the recruits is a 40-hour course and the Academy instructor has been suspended. Therefore, there is 40 hours open, which only occurred in the last three weeks. He looked at the five learning objectives needed for this course and the RISP get 8 hours of this training. However, we had a late change as of this morning and spoke with Det. Ryan Duffy, of Newport PD who agreed to instruct the 40 hour course. Chief Mello suggested we could always contact the Department of Health to see if they could render assistance in the future if needed. Colonel O'Donnell asked if this course could be reduced and done in less hours. Captain Ricciarelli stated that the Job Task Analysis described the curriculum, not the hours.

9. Brown University candidates update

- **Captain David Ricciarelli**

Captain Ricciarelli stated that there are currently two Brown University officers (previous Providence officers) who have a big chunk of curriculum to get through for certification.

10. Update on Class 2012-II-, 199th Session

- **Captain DelBonis**

Captain DelBonis stated that the class is in Week 18 and graduation

is on schedule for December 19th. Sergeant Raynes then commended Captain DelBonis on his work ethic and the endless hours that he has devoted to the Academy and the recruit classes for the past three years.

11. Update on Continuing Education

- **Captain Ricciarelli/Sergeant Raynes**

Sgt. Raynes commended Captain Barzykowski on assisting putting together a “Handcuffing Techniques” in-service class. The upcoming class is filled with a waiting list and we hope to add a few more in the coming months. Lisa Holley inquired as to the possibility of doing a “Civil Rights” in-service which would be geared towards peaceful demonstrations and “Occupy” movements, etc. Captain Ricciarelli asked if the recent “Active Shooter” training encompassed that and Colonel McCartney stated they needed further training on that issue including decision making. Sgt. Raynes then thanked Donna Lavalley for her work with the in-service trainings that were scheduled for the days of the hurricane and had to be cancelled and re-scheduled. Colonel McCartney also shared his appreciation for her and thanked Captain DelBonis for all his work that he accomplished here at the Academy with the recruit classes.

12. Adjournment

Motion from Mr. Brown to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Chief Pesare. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am by Colonel Stephen M. McCartney.

Minutes submitted by: Donna M. Lavalley, Administrative Assistant